ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: ECDC-US CUSTOMER NO: 36038

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

M. Seul et al.

Serial No. 09/448,420

Filed: 11/22/1999

For: Color-Encoding and in-situ Interrogation of Matrix-Coupled Chemical Compounds

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Group Art Unit: 1639

Examiner: P. Ponnaluri

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OCT 2 0 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450 VIA FAX: (703) 872-9306

## OFFICIAL

## Response Under Rule 1.116

Dear Sir:

Please consider the following remarks in connection with the Final Rejection of October 7, 2003. These remarks were not made earlier because Applicants believed that the amendments and remarks in the prior response had placed the application in condition for allowance. The remarks directed to the Boyce et al. reference were not made earlier because the Examiner had not cited this reference before the Final Rejection.

Applicants and the undersigned would like to conduct a telephone interview with the Examiner, once the Examiner has reviewed these remarks. The Examiner's consideration in granting such an interview is requested. The